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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 21 Aug. 1951

SUBJECT Military Activity in
Rumania

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1. The construction of the Ianca airfield is scheduled for completion in October 1951. Approximately 200 aircraft are planned for the field. A former common laborer, one Tudorel Huidu, has been named manager of the field. 50X1-HUM
2. Increasing numbers of Soviet Air Force personnel have been seen in Braila, presumably intended for the Ianca airfield. 50X1-HUM
3. At Topraisar, forty kilometers from Constanta on the road to Carsomer, a large airfield is being constructed, under Soviet direction, by a Sovromconstructii firm. The work was started in July 1951 with intense activity. Locally hired trucks are receiving large payments for this work. 50X1-HUM
4. A new airport, allegedly to be "the largest in the Balkans" was begun in February 1951. This airport is located about three kilometers from the Baragan area in the direction of Gacomeanca, it is being built by approximately 3,000 workers and Rumanian Military Labor Battalions. 50X1-HUM
5. there were sixty Soviet jet fighters in Rumania. However, never more than two have been seen in flights at any given time. This has been confirmed by many repatriates. 50X1-HUM
6. Three hundred Soviet paratroopers allegedly practice jumps every Sunday and Friday at Galati. 50X1-HUM
7. Military maneuvers are currently under way in the Moldova, Banat, and Fagaras areas. An increasing number of Soviet tanks have been seen passing at night through Galati during July 1951. 50X1-HUM

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- 2 -

50X1-HUM

8. In mid-July 1951 about 2,500 Soviet personnel in Constanta held a practice emergency evacuation, returning the following day. [redacted] there are fifty tanks and 10,000 Soviet infantry personnel in Constanta. [redacted]
9. The drafting of Rumanian males has been speeded up. Draftees are divided into military and political units. The latter are not considered trustworthy and are placed on work projects such as the Danube-Black Sea Canal and road construction. [redacted]
10. The Mangalia Sea Resort was not opened this year allegedly because a project of constructing a connecting canal with Lake Mangalia submarine base is under way in the area. Gun emplacements along the coast in this area might also have caused the closing of the resort. [redacted]
11. On six June 1951 the Soviet Union returned twenty vessels to Rumania, including the ANA PAUKER (EX-REGINA MARIA); the J.V. STALIN (EX-REGELE FERDINAND); EX-SUCEAVA, EX-DUROSTOR, and the REPUBLICA ROMANA. The remainder are all naval vessels. The destroyers KRASNIA, RUSSIA and DON called at Galati for repairs and "certain changes". Other ships were at Galati for one month and then departed for unknown destinations. Emil Bodnarus, Minister of the Armed Forces, was present at the ceremonies attending the return of the vessels. [redacted]
12. On Piata Rizii (sic) in Galati wide gauge railroad wheels and axles were seen lined up for a distance of one kilometer. Forty truck drawn cannons also sighted in the same place. Two truck loads of shells, described as forty-five centimeters long, were supplied in July 1951 to Soviet guns opposite the Galati Hospital for the first time. [redacted]
13. A factory located at Soseaua Basarabi No. 23, Bucharest, produces grenade casings which are shipped to the Catelu arsenal in Pantelimon where they are filled. [redacted]
14. The Dac Scrap Iron Collection Agency in Bucharest reportedly averages one hundred tons daily. [redacted]
15. Near Reni on the Soviet-Rumanian border along the Prut River a ten meter zone has been plowed, harrowed, and smoothed in order to show footprints of border crossing. At the edge of the zone there is a four meter wide road with observation posts and a sentry armed with a machine gun every 400 meters. Four mounted guards also patrol the road. [redacted]
16. Evacuations are still continuing along the Yugoslav border region. Most of the refugees are sent to the Ialomita region. Contact with other Rumanians is strictly forbidden. Most of the repatriates have seen these refugees. [redacted]
17. The following roads are being widened and asphalted: Braila-Buzau; Braila-Viziru; Braila-Galati. [redacted] Strategic roads are under construction in Caransebes. [redacted]
18. The clandestine collection of gold, jewelry and coins by Soviet personnel is reported in Rumania. In Braila two Soviet agents are assigned to this project. Similar collections will be organized in Hungary and Bulgaria. [redacted]
19. The harvest in Rumania is reported to be excellent, particularly wheat. In July 1951 clashes were reported between peasants and collectors in the Bolintinudin Vale village near Bucharest. [redacted]

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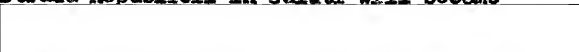


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- 3 -



50X1-HUM

20. Fifteen hundred Korean children are reported in Galati. Local families are requested to care for one child each.  50X1-HUM
21. The Notre Dame De Sion Building on Strada Republicii in Galati will become a naval school in the fall (1951).  50X1-HUM
22.  the Rumanian Army has 300,000 members; Militia 16,000; and Security Forces 25,000.  50X1-HUM

 Comment: The above represents a summary of information which is being processed for distribution to your field representatives in Athens.

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